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Project: Perry Tract

Project Sponsor: Special Properties, Inc.

Agency and Permit Number: None given

Project Location: Southern Dorchester County, South Carolina (Figure 1)

Field Personnel: Tom Covington and Nicole Southerland

Date of Survey: December 9, 2004

Objective: To obtain initial historic research that will assist in better understanding the types of historic sites present on the tract; to evaluate land use activities and their potential affects on possible archaeological sites; and to identify the areas of the tract that have the highest probability of producing archaeological and/or historical sites.

Survey Description: The 200 acre tract borders SC 61 to the south and follows a drainage ditch to the north and east that separates this tract from other properties (Figure 2). A dirt road (Cane Acre Road) runs approximately north-south through the middle of the lot. About 66 acres of the tract are wetland and a dense forest of pines and hardwoods cover the tract (Figure 3).

The Dorchester County Soil Survey (Eppinette 1990) shows the majority of the tract covered with somewhat poorly drained Wahee fine sandy loams (Figure 4). The ditch area around the north and west edge of the tract is the occasionally flooded Mouzon fine sandy loams and a small area in the eastern portion of the tract are the frequently flooded Brookman clay loams. The elevation of the tract is level, staying at about 15 feet above mean sea level (AMSL).

A background investigation of historic maps was performed to see if any structures or sites are located in or around the project area. These maps include:

1. Mills' *Atlas* of 1825 (Figure 5)
2. McCrady Plat 3129 from 1908; 4909 from 1787; and 4913 from 1849
3. *Map of Berkeley and Parts of Charleston and Dorchester Counties, SC* from 1900 to 1962
4. 1918 Cottageville 15 minute quadrangle (Figure 6)
5. *Charleston County, SC with Portions of Adjacent Counties showing State and County Roads* of 1929 (Figure 7)
6. *General Highway and Transportation Map of Dorchester County* from 1939 (Figure 8)

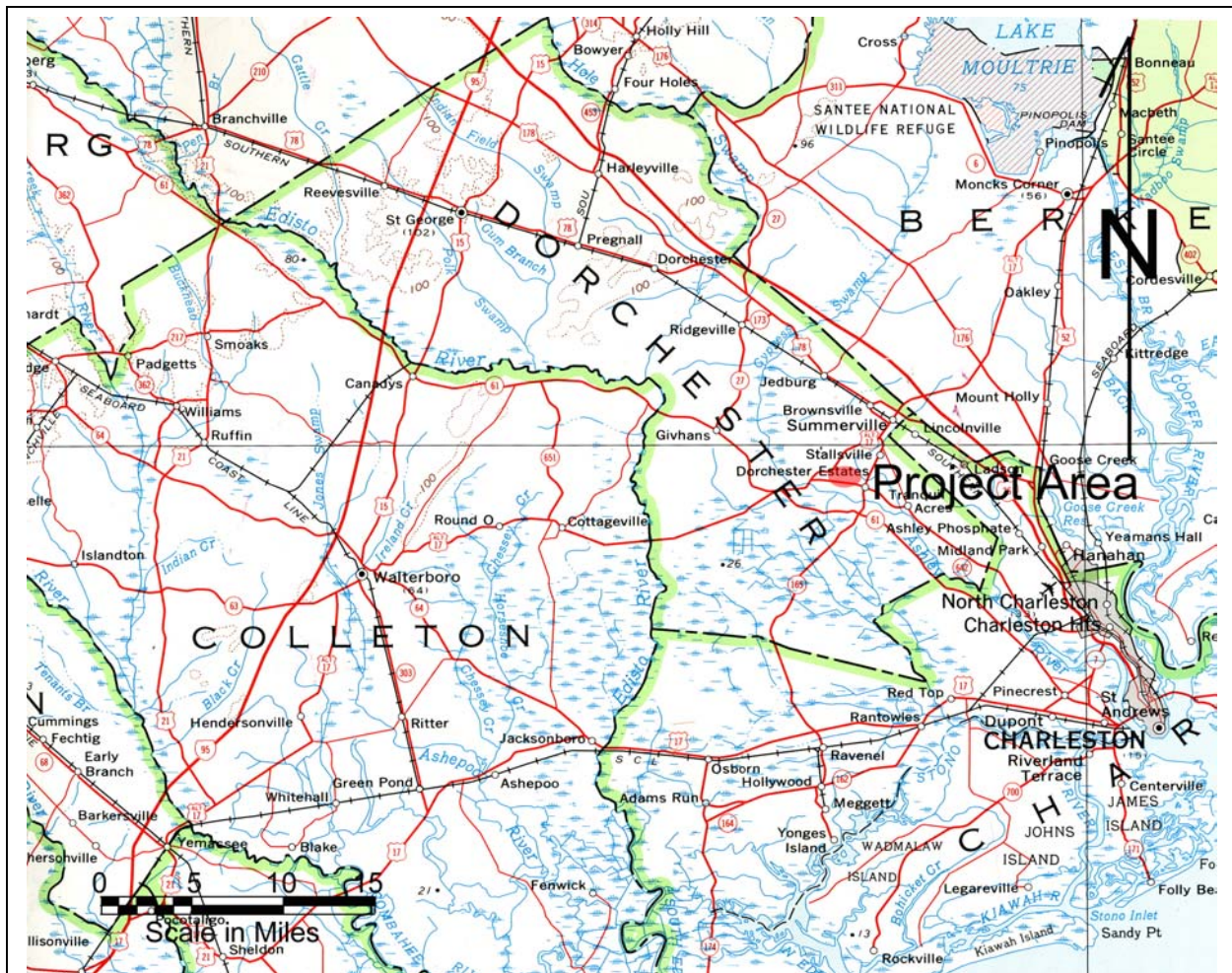


Figure 1. Project vicinity in Dorchester County (basemap is USGS South Carolina 1:500,000).

7. Soil Survey of Dorchester County, South Carolina from 1990 (see Figure 4)

In addition, the S.C. Department of Archives and History GIS and the site files at the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology were consulted to check for any previously identified sites or structures in the project area.

Results: The background check at the S.C. Department of Archives and History revealed no historic structures within the tract boundaries. One site, however, 103-1088, a cemetery, was located 0.2 mile south of the tract (see Figure 2). Although the survey card specifies that the cemetery was never visited, it has been determined not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Our examination reveals that the cemetery is relatively recent. While it does not seem eligible under National Register Criteria A, B, or C, it may well be eligible for the bioanthropological data it contains (Criterion D).

Investigations at the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology revealed no previously identified sites within the project tract, but six sites were identified within a 1.0 mile radius (see Figure 2). These include: 38DR6, an Archaic and Woodland lithic and pottery scatter, 38DR11, a prehistoric lithic scatter, 38DR14, an eighteenth century colonial site and Middle Woodland pottery scatter, 38DR91, a late nineteenth to early twentieth century domestic site, 38DR183, an Early to Middle Woodland and Mississippian pottery scatter and eighteenth to nineteenth century scatter, and 38DR187, a Middle Woodland lithic and ceramic scatter. There has been no determination of eligibility for 38DR6, 38DR11,

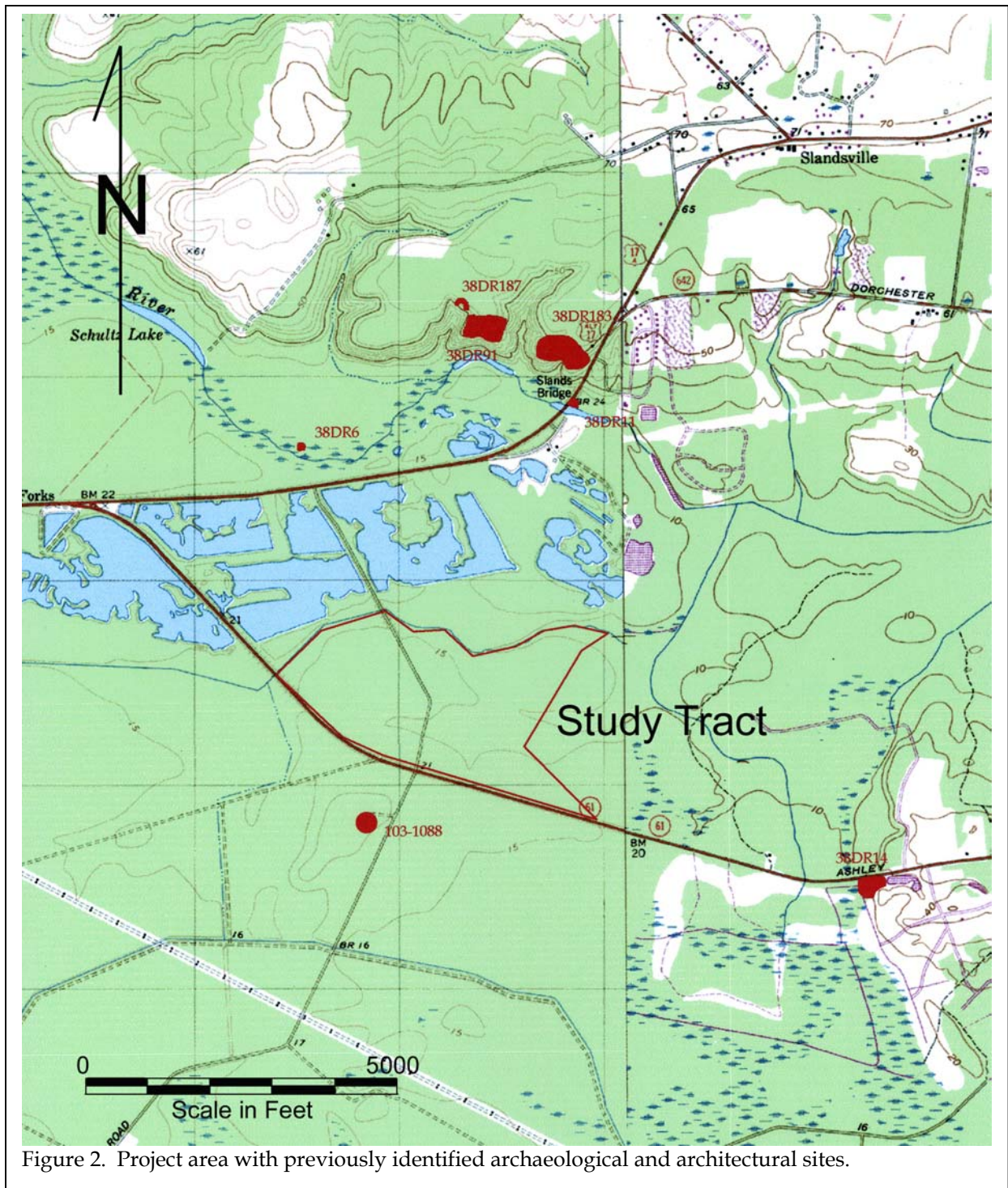


Figure 2. Project area with previously identified archaeological and architectural sites.

and 38DR91. The remaining sites, 38DR14, 38DR183, and 38DR187 have been found not eligible. The elevation of these sites is generally 35 feet higher than the project area.

Examination of historic maps 1 (Figure 5), 4 (Figure 6), 5 (Figure 7), and 6 (Figure 8) reveal no structures in the project area. In fact, the tract is shown to be in and around wet land in all of these maps.



Figure 3. View of dense pines and hardwoods on the tract.

Map 3 shows the project tract as belonging to Waring. Examination of the three McCrady plats, all of which mention the name Waring, shows that only one plat (4913) actually includes the current project area. This plat, from 1849, fails to show any structures on the tract.

The pedestrian survey, which would examine the tract for visible resources, failed to identify any sites or structures. However, the only visible ground surface was Cane Acre Road, which had obviously

destroyed the original ground surface (Figure 9), and a couple of short cut lines built by hunters and planted with grass (Figure 10). It had rained a couple days before the survey and even the better drained Wahee soils, on which these cut lines were situated, were still wet.

Summary: Although the project area had very little surface visibility, it is unlikely that any significant resources will be found. The historic maps show this area as low, wet lands with houses and settlements well north and east of the tract. The pedestrian survey showed most of the tract to be wet with soils ranging from, at best, somewhat poorly drained to frequently flooded.

We believe that the project tract shows a low probability for producing archaeological or architectural resources. If any resources were found, they would likely be isolated and possibly not significant enough to warrant a National Register nomination. We have also failed to find any evidence that this parcel was used for any historic agricultural settlements.

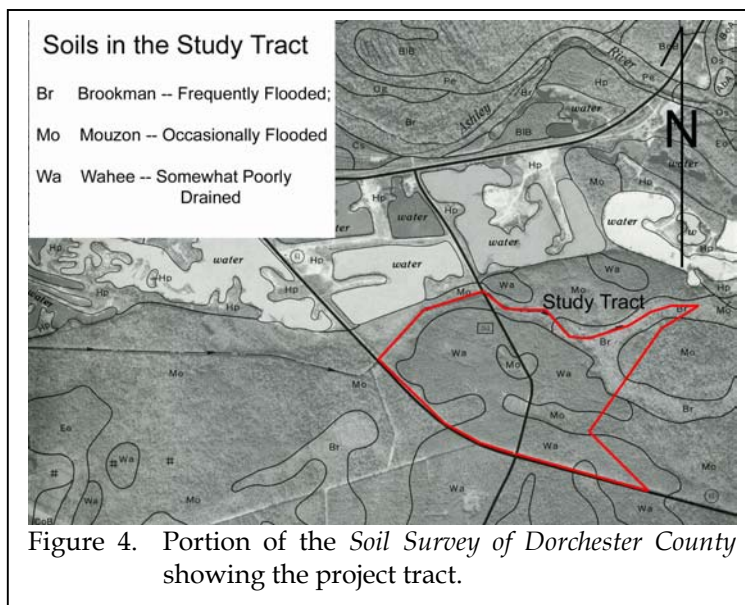


Figure 4. Portion of the *Soil Survey of Dorchester County* showing the project tract.

Eppinette, Robert T.

1990 *Soil Survey of Dorchester County, South Carolina*. U.S.D.A., Washington. D.C.

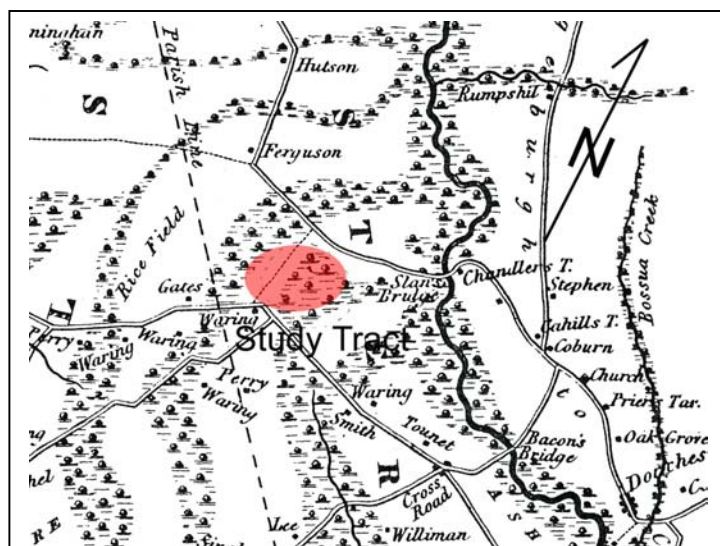


Figure 5. Portion of Mills' *Atlas* showing the project area.

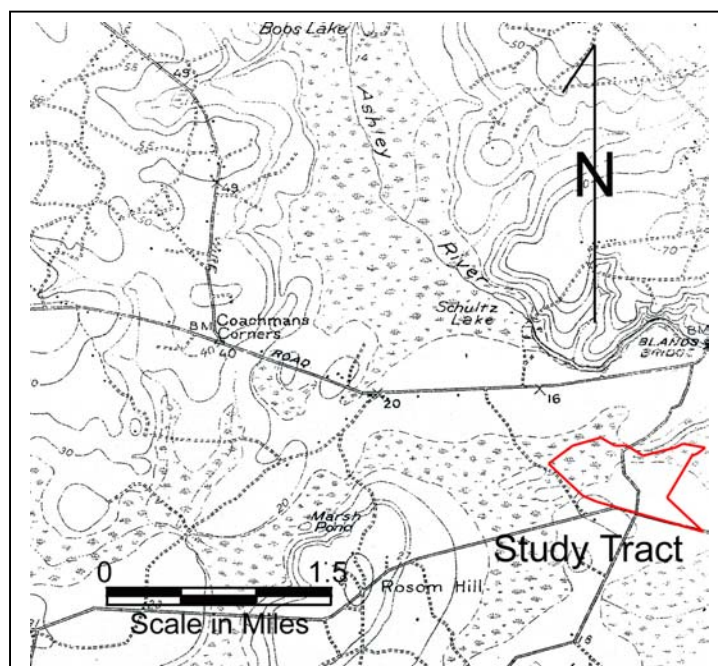


Figure 6. Portion of the 1918 Cottageville 15' topo.

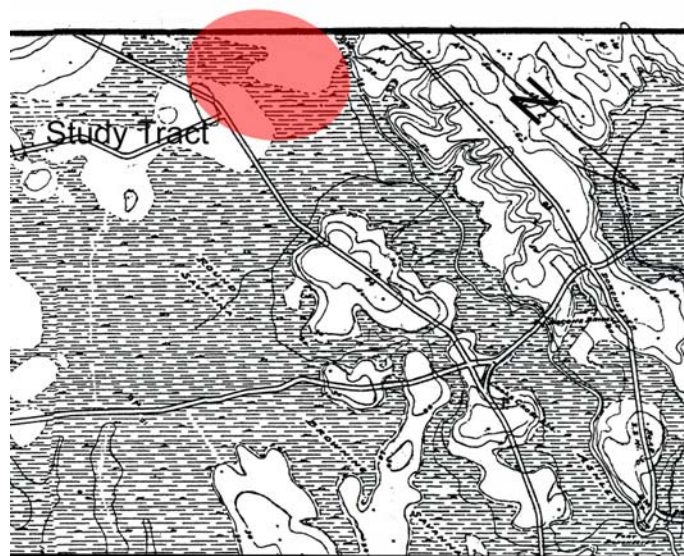


Figure 7. Portion of the *Charleston County, SC* map showing the project area.

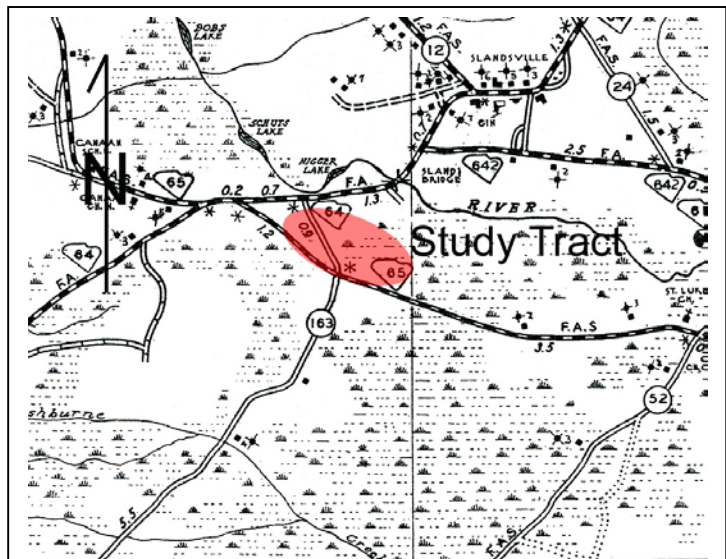


Figure 8. Portion of the *General Highway and Transportation Map of Dorchester County* showing the project area.



Figure 9. View of Cane Acre Road, looking north.



Figure 10. View of a hunter's cut.